

Habakkuk 2:2-20 Stand in Awe before God

God often seems to ask us to wait on Him to rescue us. Why is this hard but also good for us?

Habakkuk so far:

As violence and injustice continues to rage year after year Habakkuk questions God and wonders why. God answers but not in the way Habakkuk hoped ó God will use the wicked Babylonians to bring judgment upon His people. God's response brings more questions for Habakkuk, who understands who God is, but remains confused and therefore is waiting on the next Word from God.

Read Habakkuk 2:2-20

1. What phrases in verses 2-3 suggest that the message Habakkuk is about to hear is important? And when will it happen?
2. Habakkuk was about to witness a time of unsurpassed hardship for his people at the hands of the Babylonians. Yet God assured him in verse 4 that, "The righteous will live by his faith." What does this mean and how will it show? Also see *Romans 1:17*
3. How are the Babylonians different to the righteous according to God's description in verse 4-5?
4. Verses 6-20 are a "taunt song," much like a group of children in the street might sing to the town bully. Imagine yourself as one of the Israelites being exiled by the vicious Babylonians. Why might it help you to have this song in your memory?
5. This taunt song begins each new section with the words, "Woe to him who í" What are the major areas of concern to God?

6. Each Woe lists consequences the Babylonians would eventually suffer. In what ways do the consequences resemble the wrong doing?

7. How will judgement day reveal the "glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (verse 14)? Also see *2 Thessalonians 1:5-10*, *Philippians 2:9-11*

8. In verses 18-19, God spoke of Babylon's religion. Why were her idols useless?

9. How does the picture of God and being silent before Him in verse 20 contrast with the previous description of idols?

Think:

10. In a chapter on waiting for Judgement Day to come and the glory of the Lord to be revealed, Why is it important to be silent before God?

11. After taking a look at all 5 woes, how do you see these same things today? Who are the "Babylonians" in today's world?

12. Is there anything to change in your life in the light of this chapter?

Pray that Scripture might continue in NSW schools for many years; In light of the future judgement coming, Pray that we would be generous givers to gospel work and always be prepared to give the reason of our hope to all.